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## BEFORE THE POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

) Nooksack Post Office, ) Nooksack, Washington 98276 ) )	Docket No. A2011-17

## STATEMENT BY THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE IN SUPPORT OF CITY OF NOOKSACK'S APPLICATION FOR SUSPENSION OF CLOSURE

(May 25, 2011)

On May 17, 2011, the City of Nooksack, Washington, (Nooksack) filed an application, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 404(d)(5) and Commission Rule 114, for suspension of the Postal Service's determination to consolidate the Nooksack, Washington post office and to establish a classified station.<sup>1</sup> On May 23, 2011, an affidavit was filed in support of the Suspension Application.<sup>2</sup> The May 23 Affidavit supplements the Suspension Application by providing additional information regarding the steps being taken by the Postal Service to close the Nooksack Post Office.

In the notice to postal customers of its intent to close the Nooksack Post Office after May 27, 2011, the Postal Service offered patrons two options for receiving future mail.<sup>3</sup> Customers were advised that they could either rent a post office box at the Everson, Washington Mail Post Office, or they could elect "to receive mail delivery by a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Application for Suspension of Closure of the Nooksack Post Office, Nooksack, Washington 98276, May 17, 2011 (Suspension Application).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Affidavit of Virginia Radder, May 23, 2011 (May 23 Affidavit).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Appeal of Closure of Nooksack Post Office, Nooksack, Washington 98276 (Petition), Exhibit A.

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postal carrier to a designated curbside mailbox located at or near ... [their] ... home." Id.

In the May 23 Affidavit, the affiant states on information and belief that as of Friday, May 20, 2011, the cluster boxes needed for curbside delivery had not yet been ordered by the Postal Service. May 23 Affidavit at 3. The affiant states further that she was advised by a Postal Service representative that the cluster boxes "may be installed by July 1, 2011." *Id.* Should the installation of the cluster boxes be delayed until July 1, 2011, as currently anticipated, it appears that customers electing curbside delivery will have the delivery of their mail interrupted for a period of at least thirty days. Any further delay in the installation of the cluster boxes will further extend the interruption.

In light of the foregoing, a suspension of the closure of the Nooksack Post Office pending disposition of the appeal in this proceeding is needed to prevent a disruption of mail service to those existing customers who have been offered curbside mail service. Accordingly, the Public Representative supports the pending request for suspension of the closure of the Nooksack Post Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Richard A. Oliver

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